

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (**currently amended**). A method of instant messaging comprising:

accepting, with an instant messaging originating device, a correction to a message previously sent from the instant messaging originating device and destined for reception by to a an instant messaging recipient device;

determining, with the instant messaging originating device, ~~that whether a~~ message correction of the previously sent message requires sending ~~one of a complete corrected message and~~ a message correction specification; and

based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending from the instant messaging originating device to an instant message manager on a an instant messaging server ~~one of a complete corrected message and a~~ the message correction specification that specifies a correction of the previously sent message.

2 (**original**). The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

allowing message correction by message correction specification;
implementing message processing services at a messaging server; and
transmitting binary formats.

3 (**original**). The method of claim 1, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

4 (original). The method of claim 3, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

5 (currently amended). A method performed by an instant message manager on a messaging server, the method comprising:

- receiving, at an instant messaging server, a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an instant messaging originating client system, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification that specifies a correction to an instant message that was previously sent from the instant messaging originating client system; and

- sending, from the instant messaging server, the message correction specification and the message ID to [[a]] an instant messaging recipient client system if [[a]] an instant message with a corresponding message ID has previously been sent from the instant messaging server to the recipient client system.

6 (currently amended). A method performed by an instant message manager on a messaging server, the method comprising:

receiving, at an instant message manager on a messaging server, a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an instant messaging originating client system, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification that specifies a correction to an instant message that was previously sent from the instant messaging originating client system;

correcting, with the instant message manager on the messaging server, a message with a corresponding message ID if a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to [[a]] an instant messaging recipient client system, wherein the message with the corresponding message ID being found in an ephemeral storage system communicatively coupled with the instant message manager on the messaging server and that stores a log of the instant messages in a discussion between the instant messaging originating client system and the instant messaging recipient client system, and further wherein the correcting is based on the received message correction specification; and

sending the corrected message and the message ID to [[a]] the instant messaging recipient client system.

7 (cancelled).

8 (currently amended) The method of claim 6, ~~7~~, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

9 (currently amended). A method performed by an instant message manager on a messaging server, the method comprising:

- maintaining an ephemeral storage log of an instant messaging conversation;
- receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an instant messaging originating client system;
- determining if a message processing service is required for the received message correction specification;
- correcting, based on the received message correction specification, a message with a corresponding message ID in the ephemeral storage log if a message processing service is required; and
- sending the corrected message and the message ID to ~~[[a]]~~ an instant messaging recipient client system.

10 (original). The method of claim 9, wherein the determining step comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

- language translation;
- correction of binary format information in a message;
- correction of image information in a message;
- system processing efficiency; and
- network communication efficiency.

11 (**currently amended**). A method comprising:

receiving, at an instant messaging recipient client system, a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from [[a]] an instant messaging server;

retrieving, in response to the receiving, [[a]] an instant message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log that stores a log of the instant messages in a discussion between the instant messaging recipient client system and an instant messaging originating client system;

correcting the retrieved instant message based on the message correction specification;

updating the conversation log with the corrected instant message; and
activating an alert to notify a user of an update to the conversation log with the corrected instant message.

12 (**original**). The method of claim 11, wherein the alert comprises at least one of: displaying highlighted corrected text in a conversation log and an auditory alert.

13 (**original**). The method of claim 11, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

14 (**original**). The method of claim 13, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;
an end character index; and
insertion text.

15 (currently amended). An apparatus comprising:

an instant messaging client, for sending and receiving instant messages and message correction specifications; and

an error corrector, communicatively coupled to the instant messaging client, for accepting a correction to ~~[[a]]~~ an instant message that was previously sent ~~message from the instant messaging client~~, determining whether a message correction of the previously sent instant message requires sending from the instant messaging client ~~one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification that specifies a correction to the instant message that was previously sent from the instant messaging client~~, and based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending to ~~[[a]]~~ an instant messaging server ~~one of a complete corrected message and a~~ the message correction specification.

16 (original). The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

17 (original). The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;
an end character index; and
insertion text.

18 (**currently amended**). The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the error corrector is further for:

receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from a messaging server;

retrieving a message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log communicatively coupled with the instant messaging client, wherein the conversation log is for storing a log of the instant messages in a discussion between the instant messaging client and another instant messaging client;

correcting the retrieved message based on the received message correction specification;

updating the conversation log with the corrected message; and

activating an alert to notify a user of the instant messaging client of an update to the conversation log.

19 (**original**).The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

20 (**original**).The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;

an end character index; and

insertion text.

21 (**currently amended**). An apparatus comprising:

an instant message manager for routing messages and message correction specifications to a an instant messaging recipient system; and

an ephemeral storage system, communicatively coupled with the instant message manager, for temporarily maintaining a log of an instant message conversation; and

an error corrector, communicatively coupled to the instant message manager, for receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an instant messaging originating client system, correcting a message with a corresponding message ID if the error corrector determines from a system configuration parameter to apply server-side message processing to instant messages, ~~a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to a recipient client system,~~ wherein the message with the corresponding message ID being found in the ephemeral storage system, and sending the corrected message and the message ID to a the instant messaging recipient client system.

22 (**original**).The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

23 (**original**).The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;

an end character index; and

insertion text.

24 (**cancelled**)

25 (**currently amended**). A system comprising:

at least one instant message originating client system, for accepting a correction to a previously sent instant message, determining whether a message correction of the previously sent instant message requires sending one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification, and based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending from the at least one instant message originating client system to a an instant messaging server one of a complete corrected message and a message correction specification;

a an instant messaging server, communicatively coupled to the at least one instant message originating client system, for receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from the at least one originating client system, ~~correcting a message with a corresponding message ID if a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to a recipient client system,~~ and sending the ~~corrected message~~ message correction specification and the message ID to the recipient client system; and

at least one instant message recipient client system, communicatively coupled to the instant messaging server, for receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from the instant messaging server, retrieving a message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log, correcting the retrieved message, updating the conversation log with the corrected message, and activating an alert to notify a user of the at least one instant message recipient client system of an update to the conversation log.

26 (~~original~~). The system of claim 25, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

27 (**original**). The system of claim 26, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

28 (~~currently amended~~). A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

- accepting, with an instant messaging originating device, a correction to a message previously sent from the instant messaging originating device and destined for reception by to a an instant messaging recipient device;

- determining, with the instant messaging originating device, ~~that~~ whether a message correction of the previously sent message requires sending ~~one of a complete corrected message and~~ a message correction specification; and

- based on the determination of message correction of the previously sent message, sending from the instant messaging originating device to an instant message manager on a an instant messaging server ~~one of a complete corrected message and a~~ the message correction specification that specifies a correction of the previously sent message.

29 (**original**). The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the determining comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

- allowing message correction by message correction specification;
- implementing message processing services at a messaging server; and
- transmitting binary formats.

30 (**original**). The computer readable medium of claim 29, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification.

31 **(original)**. The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

- a start character index;
- an end character index; and
- insertion text.

32 **(currently amended)**. A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

receiving, at an instant messaging server, a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an instant messaging originating client system, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification that specifies a correction to an instant message that was previously sent from the instant messaging originating client system; and

sending, from the instant messaging server, the message correction specification and the message ID to [[a]] an instant messaging recipient client system if [[a]] an instant message with a corresponding message ID has previously been sent from the instant messaging server to the recipient client system.

33 (currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

receiving, at an instant message manager on a messaging server, a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an instant messaging originating client system, wherein the message correction specification comprises at least one text replacement specification that specifies a correction to an instant message that was previously sent from the instant messaging originating client system;

correcting, with the instant message manager on the messaging server, a message with a corresponding message ID if a message with a corresponding message ID has not previously been sent to [[a]] an instant messaging recipient client system, wherein the message with the corresponding message ID being found in an ephemeral storage system communicatively coupled with the instant message manager on the messaging server and that stores a log of the instant messages in a discussion between the instant messaging originating client system and the instant messaging recipient client system, and further wherein the correcting is based on the received message correction specification; and

sending the corrected message and the message ID to [[a]] an instant messaging recipient client system.

34 (cancelled)

35 (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 33, ~~34~~, wherein the text replacement specification comprises:

a start character index;
an end character index; and
insertion text.

36 (currently amended). A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

- maintaining an ephemeral storage log of an instant messaging conversation;

- receiving a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from an instant messaging originating client system;

- determining if a message processing service is required for the received message correction specification;

- correcting, based on the received message correction specification, a message with a corresponding message ID in the ephemeral storage log if a message processing service is required; and

- sending the corrected message and the message ID to [[a]] an instant messaging recipient client system.

37 (original). The computer readable medium of claim 36, wherein the determining step comprises determining whether at least one factor of the following corresponds to a system:

- language translation;

- correction of binary format information in a message;

- correction of image information in a message;

- system processing efficiency; and

- network communication efficiency.

38 (currently amended). A computer readable medium comprising computer instructions for:

receiving, at an instant messaging recipient client system, a message correction specification and a message identifier (ID) from [[a]] an instant messaging server;

retrieving, in response to the receiving, [[a]] an instant message with a corresponding message ID from a conversation log that stores a log of the instant messages in a discussion between the instant messaging recipient client system and an instant messaging originating client system;

correcting the retrieved instant message based on the message correction specification;

updating the conversation log with the corrected instant message; and

activating an alert to notify a user of an update to the conversation log with the corrected instant message.

39 (original). The computer readable medium of claim 38, wherein the alert comprises at least one of: displaying highlighted corrected text in a conversation log and an auditory alert.